

the direction of President Sandy Baldwin and Chief Executive Officer Lloyd Ward, the U.S. Olympic Committee has offered their incredible support for these games.

I also pay tribute to the Salt Lake Organizing Committee, SLOC, for taking the challenge to improve on the success of the Utah Winter Olympics by organizing and carrying out the 2002 Paralympic Winter Games. Nancy Gonsalves, who has been at the head of this venture for the Salt Lake Organizing Committee, is to be commended.

My colleagues might be interested to learn that this was the first time the Paralympic Winter Games have been held in the United States. It was also the first time a local organizing committee assumed the responsibility for the organization, acquiring of sponsors, and staging of the games. The contributions of the sponsors, the volunteers, and SLOC were essential to the success of the Salt Lake 2002 Winter Paralympic Games. The commitment of the people in Salt Lake City and the great state of Utah deserve our appreciation and recognition.

In addition, I wish to give special recognition to the national media for the attention they gave to the Paralympic Winter Games. The purpose of the 2002 Paralympic Winter Games, the events, and the individual stories of the athletes were covered more extensively by the national and international media than in any previous Paralympic games. This coverage suggests that we, as a society, not only recognize outstanding physical performance requiring concentration, dedication, and discipline, but, in addition, we recognize the challenges that must be accommodated by people with disabilities. These Paralympic Games proved that there is no limit to what an individual can accomplish.

The Salt Lake 2002 Paralympic Winter Games enriched the lives of thousands of people with disabilities and their families. Even more important, they enriched the lives of those of us fortunate enough to live free of disability. I wish to commend the dedication and commitment of the athletes, their families, their trainers, the Salt Lake Organizing Committee, and the citizens of the great State of Utah.

Mr. BENNETT. Mr. President, I rise today to join my colleague from Utah in recognizing the outstanding success of the Salt Lake 2002 Paralympic Winter Games. Ten days after the conclusion of the Winter Olympic Games, another group of elite athletes from around the world gathered in Salt Lake City to push the limits of physical achievement. These athletes, along with their coaches, trainers, families, and many volunteers, made the 2002 Paralympic Winter Games a remarkable 10-day event.

The paralympic movement began in 1948, when Sir Ludwig Guttmann organized a sports competition for World War II veterans with spinal cord injuries in Stoke Mandeville, England.

From that small beginning came what we now know as the Paralympic Games, which have grown dramatically in recent years. The Salt Lake games were the eighth official Paralympic Winter Games, with over 1,000 world class athletes from 36 countries competing in 100 medal events.

While the athletes at the Paralympic Games all have some form of disability, the level of competition is no less intense. Because the games emphasize the participants' athletic achievements rather than their disabilities, spectators quickly forget that these athletes face special challenges and instead focus on the thrill of competition.

I am proud of the accomplishments of my State during the past 2 months. The Paralympic Games were an outstanding partner to the Olympic Games. I congratulate everyone involved, especially the athletes, who showed us that with dedication and commitment, no obstacle is too great to overcome.

#### LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT ACT OF 2001

Mr. SMITH of Oregon. Mr. President, I rise today to speak about hate crimes legislation I introduced with Senator KENNEDY in March of last year. The Local Law Enforcement Act of 2001 would add new categories to current hate crimes legislation sending a signal that violence of any kind is unacceptable in our society.

I would like to describe a terrible crime that occurred February 8, 2002, in Missoula, MT. A lesbian couple and their 22-month-old son were victims of an arson attack. An intruder broke into their home, poured accelerant throughout, and set it on fire while the victims slept. The attack came 4 days after the couple received statewide publicity for suing their employer for same-sex domestic partner benefits.

I believe that government's first duty is to defend its citizens, to defend them against the harms that come out of hate. The Local Law Enforcement Enhancement Act of 2001 is now a symbol that can become substance. I believe that by passing this legislation and changing current law, we can change hearts and minds as well.

#### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

##### SORROW TO SOLACE

• Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, I decided that the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD should use the same heading, "Sorrow To Solace," on what I am about to say to the Senate as the Raleigh (N.E.) News and Observer used on its heart-rending story on March 12 about Christelle Geisler.

Who is Christelle Geisler? For openers, she is a charming student at Raleigh Meredith College whose home is in Hickory, NC, in the western part of

my State. But that does not tell the real story about Christelle, so let me begin at the beginning of my brief relationship with her a few days ago.

James Humes was waiting for me when I arrived at my Senate office in the Dirksen Building. In the hallway were a number of other visitors. James Humes is well known and highly respected in this city. He looks like Winston Churchill, he walks like Winston Churchill, he sounds like Winston Churchill. He served a stint as speech writer for a President of the United States; he is a well-known and highly respected author, his most recent book bearing the title, "Eisenhower and Churchill," with a subtitle reading, "The Partnership That Saved The World."

Jamie Humes and I met Christelle Geisler at the same moment. Christelle giggled quietly in appreciation of Jamie Humes' imitation of Churchill. The three of us had our picture taken together; then Jamie departed with her appealing smile and her good manners. I recall being disappointed that she could not stay longer.

An hour or so later I found a portion of The News and Observer's March 12th story about Christelle. It began with the three-word heading I asked to appear at the top of these remarks in the Senate this morning. The subhead: "A Girl Scout uses what she learned from grief to help other teens".

It is touching story about how Christelle having written a brochure designed to help other teenagers cope with grief. Catawba County, Christelle's home county, has distributed hundreds of copies of the brochure.

At this point, allow me to ask to print in the RECORD the News and Observer story, written by Kelly Starling, to finish the heart-warming story about a young lady who has been honored by the Girl Scouts of America because she wanted to help others in their time of grief.

The article follows:

[From the Raleigh News and Observer, Mar. 12, 2002]

##### SORROW TO SOLACE

A GIRL SCOUT USES WHAT SHE LEARNED FROM GRIEF TO HELP OTHER TEENS

(By Kelly Starling)

At the sound of the front door closing, her ears always perked up. She listened for the rap of a briefcase hitting the wood floor. Then the patter of shoes that meant Daddy was home. Christelle Geisler would dart from her bedroom, speed down two flights of stairs and into his arms. He kissed her and his two younger daughters. Then he gave the gifts: a coral necklace from the Philippines or dolls from Indonesia, a Japanese kimono.

She was dad's girl.

Phillippe Geisler traveled a lot, looking for new merchandise for his furniture store. He journeyed to foreign countries searching, and attended North Carolina furniture shows. Home in Hickory, Christelle was his buddy. She filed papers at his office. They played tennis. He teased her about practicing violin.

He was on a business trip in Florida one July night when the doorbell rang.